Remarks:

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-12 remain in the application. Claims 1 and 4-7 have been amended.

In the first paragraph on page 2 of the above-identified Office action, the Examiner acknowledges Applicant's claim for priority and stated that the appropriate submittal is required. The appropriate documents will be submitted at a later stage in the proceedings.

In item 1 on page 2 of the Office action, claim 7 has been rejected as being indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. More specifically, the Examiner has stated that in claim 7, lines 5-7, "it is unclear as to what extent is meant by 'at least partially'". The Examiner's comments have been noted and the appropriate corrections have been made to claim 7 by deleting the offending language.

It is accordingly believed that the claims meet the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraphs. Should the Examiner find any further objectionable items, Counsel would appreciate a telephone call during which the matter may be resolved. The above-noted changes to claim 7 are provided

solely for the purpose of satisfying formal requirements or are made solely for cosmetic reasons to clarify the claim(s). The changes are neither provided for overcoming the prior art nor do they narrow the scope of the claim(s) for any reason related to the statutory requirements for a patent.

In item 3 on page 3 of the Office action, claims 1-12 have been rejected as being anticipated by *Smith et al.* (US 6,333,973) under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

The rejection has been noted and claim 1 has been amended to recite the feature "selecting, by the subscriber, at least one terminal from a plurality of terminals" in an effort to even more clearly define the invention of the instant application. Support for the changes is found in claim 4 as originally filed.

Before discussing *Smith et al.* in detail, it is believed that a brief review of the invention as claimed, would be helpful.

Claim 1 as amended calls for, inter alia:

indicating, with each of a plurality of message services, to a common notification server a presence of a new message for a subscriber on the respective message service;

selecting, by the subscriber, at least one terminal *from a plurality of terminals*; and

transmitting, with the notification server, to the least one terminal selected a notification indicating that a new message is present and in which message service the new message is present.

Smith et al. disclose an integrated message center which can receive notification of pending messages of different types and can determine the type of message. The integrated message center of *Smith et al.* can also retrieve any pending message selected by a user. However, *Smith et al.* only discloses (and suggest) *one* terminal, namely the integrated message center. The user in *Smith et al.* has not the option to select one terminal from a plurality of terminals.

Clearly, *Smith et al.* do not show the step of selecting, by the subscriber, at least one terminal *from a plurality of terminals*, as recited in claim 1 of the instant application. Therefore, the invention as recited in claim 1 of the instant application is not anticipated by *Smith et al.*.
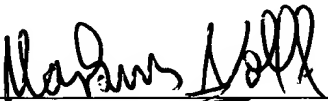
It is accordingly believed to be clear that *Smith et al.* do not show the features of claim 1. Claim 1 is, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art and because claims 2-12 are ultimately dependent on claim 1, they are believed to be patentable as well.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-12 are solicited.

Petition for extension is herewith made. The extension fee for response within a period of two months pursuant to Section 1.136(a) in the amount of $ 400.00 in accordance with Section 1.17 is enclosed herewith.

Please charge any other fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,

MARKUS NOLFF
REG. NO. 37,006

For Applicants

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Applic. No. : 09/538,792

Version with markings to show changes made:

Claim 1 (amended). A method of notifying a subscriber of a
plurality of message services of a message:

indicating, with each of a plurality of message services, to a
common notification server a presence of a new message for a
subscriber on the respective message service; [and]

selecting, by the subscriber, at least one terminal from a
plurality of terminals; and

transmitting, with the notification server, to [at] the least
one terminal [of the subscriber] selected a notification
indicating that a new message is present and in which message
service the new message is present.

Claim 4 (amended). The method according to claim 1, wherein
the transmitting step comprises transmitting with the
notification server the notification to the [notification
server to] at least one terminal selected by the subscriber
from a plurality of terminals.

Claim 5 (amended). The method according to claim 4, wherein
the subscriber selects [a] the at least one terminal by

transmitting a control information item from the respective terminal to the notification server.

Claim 6 (amended). The method according to claim 1, which comprises transmitting with each message service a message header information item to the notification server when a new message is present, and transmitting the message header information with the notification server at least partially to the at least one [subscriber] terminal [enabled] selected, at least partially, to output the message header information.

Claim 7 (amended). The method according to claim 1, which comprises, in response to a request by the notification server, transmitting with each message service a message header information item to the notification server, and transmitting at least partially the message header information item with the notification server [at least partially] to the at least one [subscriber] terminal [enabled] selected to output the message header information [at least partially].